

AMENDMENTS

The following listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A method for managing electronic document production over a computer network, the method comprising:
on a first computing device, capturing a ~~document~~ production request and generating a user interface with user accessible controls for selecting services for producing the document; and
on a second computing device, merging selected services and the captured ~~document~~ production request into a ~~document~~ production plan and delivering the ~~document~~ production plan in a device specific format to one or more selected document production devices.
2. (original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising identifying services available on the network, and wherein the act of generating comprises generating a user interface with user accessible controls for selecting the identified services.
3. (original) The method of Claim 2, wherein the act of generating further comprises generating a user interface with user accessible controls for selecting services not available on the network.
4. (original) The method of Claim 2, wherein the act of identifying includes querying devices present on the network.
5. (original) The method of Claim 2, wherein the act of identifying includes querying a services database.
6. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the act of capturing includes receiving the ~~document~~ production request from an application and converting the production request into a generic format.

7. (original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising identifying document production devices capable of providing the selected services and generating a user interface with user accessible controls for selecting one or more, if any, of the identified document production devices.

8. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising monitoring the status of delivered ~~document~~ production plans.

9. (currently amended) A computer program product for managing electronic document production over a computer network, the product comprising a computer useable medium having computer readable instructions thereon for:

capturing a ~~document~~ production request on a first computing device;

generating a user interface with user accessible controls for selecting services for producing the document;

merging the selected services and the captured ~~document~~ production request into a ~~document~~ production plan; and

delivering the ~~document~~ production plan in a device specific format to one or more selected document production devices from a second computing device.

10. (currently amended) The product of Claim 9, wherein the instructions for capturing comprise instructions for receiving a ~~document~~ production request from an application and transferring the production request to the second computing device.

11. (original) The product of Claim 9, comprising further instructions for identifying services available on the network, and the instructions for generating comprise instructions for generating a user interface with user accessible controls for selecting the identified services.

12. (original) The product of Claim 11, wherein the instructions for generating comprise further instructions for generating a user interface with user accessible controls for selecting the services not available on the network.

13. (original) The product of Claim 11, wherein the instructions for identifying comprise instructions for querying devices present on the network.

14. (original) The product of Claim 11, wherein the instructions for identifying comprise instructions for querying a services database.

15. (original) The product of Claim 14, comprising further instructions for identifying services available on the network but not contained in the service database and updating the services database with the identified services.

16. (original) The product of Claim 15, further comprising identifying services not available on the network and not contained in the services database and updating the services database with the identified services.

17. (original) The product of Claim 9, further comprising instructions for identifying document production devices capable of providing the selected services and generating a user interface with user accessible controls for selecting one or more, if any, of the identified document production devices.

18. (currently amended) The product of Claim 9, further comprising instructions for monitoring the production status of delivered ~~document~~ production plans.

19. (currently amended) In a computer network, a system for managing ~~document~~ production requests, comprising:

a production client operable to receive a ~~document~~ production request, the client comprising a capture driver operable to capture the ~~document~~ production request and an interface translator operable to display user accessible controls for producing the ~~document~~ production request;

a production server in electronic communication with the client and operable to direct one or more selected devices to produce the captured ~~document~~ production request with selected services and options, the server comprising a services engine operable to inform the client of potential services and a production engine operable

to deliver the captured document production request to the selected device or devices.

20. (currently amended) The system of Claim 19, wherein the capture driver is further operable to transform the document production request into a selected format and to transfer the formatted document production request to the production server.

21. (original) The system of Claim 19, wherein the server further comprises a web server for communicating with the client and the client interface translator is a web browser.

22. (original) The system of Claim 21, wherein the services engine includes a services locator operable to identify services available on the network.

23. (original) The system of Claim 21, wherein the production server further comprises a database of known services available on the network.

24. (original) The system of Claim 23, wherein the services locator is operable to identify available services by querying the database and by querying the document production devices present on the network.

25. (original) The system of Claim 19, wherein the services engine further includes a device identifier operable to identify one or more, if any, available document production devices that are compatible with the selected services and options and to provide the interface translator with information required to display user accessible controls for selecting one or more, if any, of the identified document production devices.

26. (original) The system of Claim 19, wherein the production engine includes a production queue.

27. (original) The system of Claim 26, wherein the production engine further includes a production manager in electronic communication with the production queue.

28. (original) The system of Claim 19, wherein the Client further comprises a server locator.

29. (original) A distributed document production system comprising:
one or more document production devices;
a production client operating on a first computing device;
a production server operating on a second computing device, the production server in electronic communication with the production client and the document production devices, the production server operable to receive a production request from the production client and to deliver the request to one or more selected production devices in a device specific format.

30. (currently amended) The document production system of Claim 29, wherein the production client comprises a capture driver operable to electronically transfer the ~~a document~~ production request to the production server and an interface translator operable to display user accessible controls for selecting services for producing the document.

31. (currently amended) The document production system of Claim 30, wherein the capture driver is further operable to transform the ~~document~~ production request into a generic format and to transfer the formatted ~~document~~ production request to the production server.

32. (currently amended) The document production system of Claim 29, wherein the production server comprises a services engine operable to inform the production client of potential services and a production engine operable to deliver the ~~document~~ production request with selected services to one or more of the document production devices.

33. (original) The document production system of Claim 32, wherein the interface translator is a web browser and the production server further comprises a web server for communicating with the interface translator.

34. (original) The document production system of Claim 32, further comprising a services database and wherein the services engine includes a services locator operable to locate services by querying the services database.

35. (original) The document production system of Claim 34, wherein the production services locator is further operable to locate services by querying the document production devices.

36. (original) The document production system of Claim 34, wherein the production server further includes an update service operable to update the services database with services available on the document production devices but not currently represented in the services database.

37. (original) The document production system of Claim 36, wherein the production engine includes drivers for the production devices and wherein the update service is further operable identify new devices and to update the device drivers with drivers for newly identified devices.

38. (currently amended) The document production system of Claim 32, wherein the services engine further includes a device identifier operable to identify one or more, if any, of the document production devices that are compatible with the selected services, and wherein the production engine is operable to supply ~~the~~ an interface generator with information to display user accessible controls for selecting one or more, if any, of the identified document production devices.

39. (original) The document production system of Claim 32, wherein the production engine includes a production queue and a production manager in electronic communication with the production queue.

40. (original) The system of Claim 30, wherein the production client further comprises a server locator.